



FRIDAY EVENING, OCT. 27, 1905.

HE WHO laughs last laughs best. A year ago Mr. Thomas W. Lawson, of Boston, made the charge that the three big life insurance companies were in the hands of grafters. The insurance companies replied that Mr. Lawson was a liar. Now Mr. Lawson has published an article which shows that he knew what he was talking about when he made his charges. He says:

A year ago I called the attention of the world to the fact that the men who managed and controlled the "Big Three" life insurance companies—New York, Mutual and Equitable—were grafters—mean, low grafters—grafters who exploited themselves with horses, yachts, palaces and other flub-dubberies by using the moneys collected by false pretences from millions of Americans, from the laborer, the widow and the orphan. This was over a year ago. I was all alone in making these accusations. I was all alone when "the world" howled for my scalp for doing this monumental wrong to these monumentally good men. As the wind is tempered to the shorn lamb, so is my scalp adjusted to the world's howl. The other day on the witness stand in the investigation by the New York legislative committee the grafters of the New York, Mutual and Equitable under oath confessed to acts so much lower, so much meaner than any I had accused them of, that the world is now howling my praises as a conservative. One of those who confessed was Vice-President Grannis, of the Mutual.

MORE than two million women, representing the leading women's organizations of the United States, it is said, have adopted a memorial calling for the unseating of United States Senator Reed Smoot. This was announced yesterday by the executive committee of the National Congress of Mothers, which met in Philadelphia. This memorial will be presented when Congress convenes. Smoot, the women declare, controls the vote of eight other Senators, and fearing that his power will increase, they ask that action be taken at the convening of Congress. The reason the women give for ousting the Mormon Senator is the very one which will secure the retention of his seat. The republicans want these votes and will not lose them if they can help it. It is well, however, for Mr. Smoot that he is not a democrat, or he would surely be treated as was Congressman Roberts.

A CORPS of expert bank examiners is now at work trying to get at the bottom of the facts in the failure of the looted Enterprise National Bank, of Allegheny, Pa. While all eyes have been turned toward the dead cashier and the State treasury deposit, the judicial department of the United States has set to work to learn wherein the national banking department has been remiss. It has been made clear by all the authorities connected with the bank that Cashier Clark had been carrying on his peculations for the past two years, at least. How did he do it without the bank examiner making the discovery? That is the question the Department of Justice of the United States will ascertain for the Comptroller of the Currency. Do even national bank examiners examine? That is the pertinent and timely question Comptroller Ridgely is facing.

SENATOR GORMAN yesterday evening made a great speech at Elliptic City, Md., in defense of the proposed P. & E. amendment to the constitution of his State. He gave the best of reasons why the amendment should be adopted and in doing so recounted the troubles of the southern people, and what they were obliged to resort to throw off the yoke put upon them by the will of the ignorant and vicious class of negroes. Why any white man, especially any southern white man, should oppose the amendment is hard to understand, but still there are a number of them, including some Virginians, who are making Maryland their adopted home.

CONDITIONS in Russia are still serious. The strikes and revolutionary movements are causing famine and panic in the large cities. The police of St. Petersburg are frightened and are seeking release from duty. The autocratic government seems doomed, and it is again reported that the Czar will grant a constitution. It is said that 1,000,000 men are on strike, and the spirit of anarchy increases with idleness. Bloody conflicts have occurred between soldiers and strikers in several places. There were no serious disorders in St. Petersburg last night from the fact that many soldiers with guns loaded with ball cartridges virtually stood guard over the disorderly elements.

THE CASE of two grocers in Philadelphia, local managers for Swift & Co., charged with furnishing impure food to the League Island navy yard, came up yesterday before Judge McMichael in the Criminal Court. They were charged with supplying oleomargarine to the navy yard as a substitute for butter. They pleaded guilty and were fined \$250 and costs and sentenced to 60 days in the county prison. The sentence was per-

fectly just and proper, but the principals should have been held equally as were the agents.

A DISPATCH from Havana, published in yesterday's Gazette, stated that General Jose Miguel Gomez, former governor of Santa Clara province, until recently a candidate for the presidency of Cuba, and who is now in the United States, is buying 6,000 rifles in this country for the purpose of organizing a revolution in Cuba. Gen. Gomez goes on the principle that if he can't catch the voters he can shoot them.

From Washington.

Correspondence of the Alexandria Gazette.

Washington, D. C., Oct. 27. In order that he may discuss intelligently in his annual report to Congress the triumphs and troubles of the Panama Canal Commission, Secretary of War Taft will start this evening for a visit on the isthmus. He will proceed by steamer to Hampton Roads, where tomorrow morning he will board the cruiser Columbia for Colon. He will be accompanied by Col. Clarence Edwards, chief of the Bureau of Insular Affairs, and several others. While on the isthmus Secretary Taft will make an inspection of the whole route, the buildings, machinery, etc., and will inquire particularly into the condition of the employees. It is expected also that he will in a general way investigate the question of the proper type of the canal—whether lock or sea-level—so that he may be able to pass intelligently upon the forthcoming recommendations of the board of consulting engineers.

Several important murder cases of more than ordinary public interest will occupy the attention of the Supreme Court of the United States at the present term. Two of them grow out of the assassination of Governor Goebel, of Kentucky. Jim Howard, who is supposed to have fired the fatal shot, and who has thrice been convicted, brings up his case on writ of error, appealing from the life sentence of the court below. Motion to advance the case on the calendar has been denied, but it will probably be reached some time in December. A motion to advance the case of Caleb Powers will be made next week. Powers, who is declared to have been the arch-conspirator in the Goebel case, has also been convicted three times, and is now under sentence of death. The third case of interest is that of Anna Valentina, an Italian woman who murdered Rosa Saixa near Hackensack, N. J., and who is under sentence of death. Another murder case of national notoriety is that of Mary Mabel Rogers, of Vermont, who is also under sentence of death and whose appeal as in the Valentina case, is from the order refusing her prayer for a writ of habeas corpus.

President Roosevelt's party minus the President returned to Washington at 6 a. m. from Memphis Tenn., where they left the Executive Wednesday evening. The homeward journey was uneventful. As the members of the party were bidding the President farewell, one of them expressed the hope that he would not be sick on his homeward voyage. Will you please tell me he exclaimed, when I have ever been on a ship and was not sea-sick? But, Loeb, there will be others just as bad off as I am, and when I see him at his worst, no matter how sick I am myself, I shall offer him some pork and beans or sour kraut." Stenographer M. C. Latta, of the White House, returns to Washington on the sick list. He dates his ailment to the "marine supper" that the people of St. Augustine gave the Presidential party last Saturday night. Several other members of the party suffered dire disturbances in their digestive tract after that meal, but no one was obliged to take to his bed except Latta. Dr. Rixey said that Mr. Latta had a very narrow escape from ptomaine poisoning.

Up to 10:30 this morning no official information had been received at the White House regarding the accident to the lighthouse tender conveying the President down the Mississippi from New Orleans. Col. Lockwood, of the Lighthouse Board, received at 11:50 o'clock the following telegram from Commander Sears, in command of the Magnolia, in regard to the accident: "The Magnolia was struck on the foredeck about 11 p. m. by the steamer Esparta. No one was injured and the vessel was grounded at Sixty Mile Point. The President and his party were taken on board the lighter Ivy and will arrive at the West Virginia on time. I believe the Magnolia can be repaired and that she can proceed without assistance." The telegram was dated at Nairn.

Delegates to the second annual convention of the fourth class postmasters of the United States spent nearly the entire day in sight-seeing. At 3:30 o'clock Postmaster General Cortelyou received the delegates in his office and made a short address to them.

The State Department today received from the United States legation to Norway and Sweden a dispatch announcing the receipt of a telegram from Stockholm stating that King Oscar yesterday afternoon upon receipt of the news that the Swedish Diet had given its consent to the recognition of Norway as entirely separate from Sweden had renounced for himself and his house the crown of Norway. The legation was instructed to convey this news to the United States with the promise that later a circular note will be sent by Sweden to all the powers making the announcement.

Secretary of War Taft has transmitted to the Treasury Department his estimates of the appropriations that will be required for the War Department for the fiscal year 1907. These estimates aggregate \$104,988,267.75, being \$9,717,922.32 less than the total appropriations made by Congress for the use of the War Department for the current fiscal year ending June 30, 1906.

Miss Alice Roosevelt who spent the night at the home of her aunt, Mrs. Douglas Robinson, in New York, occupied a drawing room in a parlor car of train No. 51, which started from Jersey City for Washington this morning. Before boarding the train Miss Roosevelt made a positive denial of the reports that she is engaged to Congressman Nicholas Longworth, of Ohio.

The historic old mansion of the late Mrs. Harriet Lane Johnston, in Washington, was sold yesterday to Mrs. Ryan, wife of Thomas F. Ryan, the New York financier and railroad man. Mrs. Ryan bought the property to use it as a winter home in Washington. The price paid was \$60,000.

Miss Nannie Kemper and Mr. T. M. Houcheux were married in Warrenton yesterday evening. The ceremony was performed by Rev. Dr. Boston.

News of the Day.

Former President Cleveland has written a letter strongly endorsing the candidacy of McClellan for mayor of New York.

"Methodism in Europe" was the subject yesterday of a report to the College of Bishops of the Methodist Episcopal Church, in semi-annual session in Washington.

The E. H. Harriman special, with Miss Alice Roosevelt aboard, reached New York last night. Miss Roosevelt was driven to the home of her aunt, Mrs. Douglas Robinson.

President Loubet left Madrid for Lisbon late yesterday. The postponed bull-fight took place prior to his departure. The President did not desire to attend it, but, owing to the national character of the event, he went to it with King Alfonso, witnessed the brilliant cavalcade, and departed after the first bull had been killed.

John Findlay Wallace, whose resignation as chief engineer of the Panama canal caused a decided sensation in administration circles, is telling why he quit. While he does not emphasize the fact, he makes it very plain that red tape at Washington handicapped him to such an extent that he did not feel justified in going ahead with his work.

The old homestead of the late Admiral English, in Washington, although sold at public auction yesterday afternoon, will remain in the English family. The property was bought by Mrs. Eleanor E. Rixey, a daughter of the late admiral, and wife of Surgeon General Rixey, of the navy. The purchase price was \$21,500.

If the plans of Mrs. Charles F. Joy, wife of the former St. Louis Congressman, are carried out, a \$1,000,000 university, of which the object will be the study of occult and psychic phenomena, the human soul, and all the arts and sciences of the "new thought," will be recognized by established schools, will be built overlooking the Pacific near Santa Barbara, Cal.

U. S. Grant Rhodes, aged 19 years, died Wednesday night at the home of his grandfather, Samuel Rhodes, at Middleburg, near Hagerstown, Md. Excessive cigarette smoking was the primary cause of his death. Two weeks ago he attended the Hagerstown fair, and although very weak, he seemed to enjoy the various attractions as much as anyone. On that occasion he remarked to several companions that he would be ready for his grave in two weeks.

Sharp advances in the price of wheat occurred in Chicago yesterday, the May delivery at one time being up 24 cents, compared with Wednesday's closing quotations. The December option showed a gain of 14 cents. The market closed practically at the highest point of the day, final quotations on May being at 91½ to 91½ cents. December closed at 89½ cents. The labor crisis in Russia, foreboding a possible stoppage of all shipments of grain from that country, was the cause of the sensational rise in values.

Mr. Gorman's Speech.

In the courthouse at Elliptic City, Md., and in the presence of a crowd of Howard county democrats, among whom were scores of his old-time friends and many ladies, Senator Gorman made yesterday afternoon his first speech in this campaign.

As the recognized leader of the democratic party in Maryland and the foremost advocate of the suffrage amendment, as well as a main target for the attacks of the opposition, his first public utterance since the passage of the measure by the legislature was looked forward to with even more than the usual interest that attaches to him.

Straight from the shoulder was his defense of the principle of negro disfranchisement and the measure which the party has proposed for its accomplishment in Maryland.

He arraigned the republican party, its leaders and its policy toward the negro as a voter from the adoption of the Fifteenth amendment by one vote in a republican caucus to the present time. Graphically and with fire he described the steps taken in forcing negro suffrage upon the southern States, and in recent years the steps taken by first one and then another of these States to rid themselves of the negro as a political factor, until Maryland is the only one below the Mason and Dixon line which has not done so.

While he dealt strongly with the men who are fighting the amendment, nowhere in his speech did he mention the name of Senator Kayner, nor did he directly refer to him in any way. The deliberate ignoring of the junior Senator, his attitude toward the amendment, his attack upon the organization and his personal challenge to Mr. Gorman is in line, it is said, with the policy of the senior Senator not to notice anything Mr. Rayner may have to say.

It was to Mr. Bonaparte, as the new republican leader, however, that Senator Gorman paid more attention, and characterized of him as a "common scold" brought forth a shout. He declared that practically all of the prominence Mr. Bonaparte had acquired had been gained through his advocacy of civil service reform. Mr. Bonaparte had pursued it, he said, to such a point that no mechanic may now get a place in the government service unless he passes a civil service examination, and a scrubwoman may not find employment at the navy yard without a similar examination. Now, mark the contrast," said Mr. Gorman. "This leader, who would compel a scrubwoman, no matter how badly she needed the place, to pass a civil service examination, yet stands before the people of Maryland and tells us that he is in favor of permitting the most ignorant negro from South Carolina to become a voter and a peer of yours and mine at the polls without an examination by our people. Shame, shame on such Americanism. Shame upon the man who slanders his fellow-citizens as he has!" The Senator expressed his "complete regret" that Governor Warfield is against the amendment, and said: "I think he has been misled by bad advice."

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